

Message Text

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TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: INTERNAL MEASURES STUDY

REF: OECD PARIS 25260

1. MISSION IS REQUESTED TO FORWARD TO THE SECRETARIAT
THE FOLLOWING U.S. CONCEPT PAPER ON THE OECD INTERNAL
MEASURES STUDY:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

IN SUGGESTING AT THE SEPTEMBER 23 MEETING OF THE
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TRADE COMMITTEE THAT THE TCWP'S WORK ON INTERNAL

MEASURES BE REVIVED, THE UNITED STATES HAD TWO OBJECTIVES IN MIND. THE FIRST WAS TO BRING TO AN ORDERLY AND ORGANIZED COMPLETION A PROJECT ON WHICH MUCH TIME AND ENERGY HAD BEEN SPENT, AND IN WHICH SEVERAL POTENTIALLY USEFUL ANALYTICAL TOOLS HAD BEEN DEVELOPED. THE SECOND WAS TO HAVE THE TCWP REACH AGREEMENT ON THE MOST REALISTIC AND USEFUL DEFINITIONS OF WHAT CONSTITUTES AN "INTERNAL MEASURE" IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ON ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES FOR USE IN ASSESSING THE TRADE EFFECT OF SUCH "INTERNAL MEASURES".

THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH AGREED DEFINITIONS AND TECHNIQUES COULD WELL PROVE OF BENEFIT IN THE OECD AND IN OTHER FORA WHERE MUCH TIME AND ACRIMONY COULD BE SAVED IF AN OECD-DEVELOPED ANALYTICAL PACKAGE FOR INTERNAL MEASURES WERE AVAILABLE.

WITH THESE OBJECTIVES IN MIND, WE PROPOSE THAT THE TCWP WORK BE WOUND UP IN THE FOLLOWING WAY: THE TCWP SHOULD EXAMINE CAREFULLY THE FOUR REPORTS THE SECRETARIAT HAS ALREADY PREPARED, ALONG WITH THEIR PAPER ON ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES. THIS EXAMINATION SHOULD BE COMPLETED EARLY NEXT YEAR. IF, IN THE OPINION OF THE WP, ENOUGH THEORETICAL AND EMPIRICAL WORK HAS BEEN DONE TO ALLOW THEM TO MAKE CONCLUSIONS, THEY SHOULD PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO THE DRAFTING OF A REPORT TO THE TRADE COMMITTEE IN WHICH THEY WOULD RECOMMEND AGREED DEFINITIONS AND ANALYTICAL METHODS THAT COULD THEN BE ADOPTED BY THE TRADE COMMITTEE.

IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE TCWP COMES TO THE CONCLUSION THAT FURTHER ANALYTICAL WORK IS NEEDED, IT WOULD ASK THE SECRETARIAT TO CONDUCT FURTHER WORK AS APPROPRIATE.

IN EITHER CASE, THE TCWP SHOULD MAKE AN INTERIM REPORT TO THE TRADE COMMITTEE AT THE FIRST TC MEETING IN 1976 TELLING THE TC WHAT DECISION IT HAS MADE AND THE STATUS OF ITS WORK. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THIS STUDY SHOULD BE COMPLETED AT THE LATEST BY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AUTUMN OF 1976, WITH A FINAL REPORT TO BE PRESENTED BY THE WP TO THE TRADE COMMITTEE AROUND THIS TIME NEXT YEAR.

END TEXT.

3. FYI. WE DO NOT WISH THE OECD WORK ON INTERNAL MEASURES TO GET INTO THE AREA OF CODES OR GUIDELINES,

AS WE BELIEVE THIS SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE MTN FORUM.
HOWEVER, THE TIMELY EMERGENCE OF AN OECD-AGREED DEFINITION
OF "INTERNAL MEASURE" COULD PROVE OF GREAT BENEFIT
WHEN THE SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAILING GROUP OF THE MTNGETS
DOWN TO REAL ITEM-BY-ITEM BARGAINING. END FYI. INGERSOLL

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